

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method for producing and securing an apertured disk for a fuel injector for a fuel-injection system of an internal combustion engine, the apertured disk having an opening contour which ensures a complete passage of a fluid, the method comprising:

- a) providing a flat, metallic sheet having a constant thickness;
- b) reducing a thickness in one region of the sheet by one of impressing and embossing;
- c) after the reducing, introducing at least one spray-discharge opening in the region having reduced thickness;
- d) after the introducing, machining the sheet until an apertured disk having predefined outside dimensions is attained; and
- e) securing the apertured disk on a valve-seat member of the fuel injector in such a way that a lower end face of the valve-seat member delimits, along with the reduced-thickness region, an intake region of the apertured disk, and a vertical projection of the lower end face of the valve seat member onto an upper surface of the reduced-thickness region completely overlaps the at least one spray-discharge opening.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the sheet provided for the impressing is made of a material having a tensile strength of 500 to 700 N/mm² and a hardness of 160+/-15 HV.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein a material thrown up by the impressing on a contact side of a stamping tool is distributed on the sheet by rolling.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the sheet provided for the embossing is made of a material having a hardness greater than 160 HV.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein a material pushed out by the embossing on a bottom side of the sheet facing away from a contact side of an embossing tool is removed by grinding.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the thickness is reduced in the region by 0.05 mm to 0.1 mm with the aid of one of impressing and embossing.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one spray-discharge opening is introduced by one of punching, eroding and laser drilling.

15. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the reducing forms a frustoconical depression in the sheet.